

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LENDING 00693 141604Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-07 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EURE-00 /053 W

----- 013196

P R 141335Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1215

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL MUNICH

CINCUSNAVEUR

CTG 100.1

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 0693

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, MPOL, UR, US

SUBJECT: U.S. NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO LENINGRAD

REF: LENINGRAD 0685 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE U.S. NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO LENINGRAD CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR EVENT HERE AND IS RECEIVING WIDE ATTENTION. OFFICIAL HOSPITALITY AND WEATHER CONTINUE TO BE EXTREMELY WARM AND THE SECOND DAY OF THE SHIPS' VISIT SAW OVER 6,000 LENINGRADERS ON BOARD THE VESSELS FOR TOURS. ADMIRAL LANGILLE AND HIS SHIP COMMANDERS, OFFICERS, AND MEN ARE DOING AN OUTSTANDING JOB WITH THIS VISIT AND BOTH OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE SOVIETS HAVE MADE POINT TO CONGEN OFFICERS THAT THEY CONSIDER VISIT A HUGE SUCCESS WHICH AUGURS WELL FOR U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. SECOND DAY OF U.S. NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO LENINGRAD WAS PACKED WITH EVENTS AND U.S. SAILORS ALONG STREETS AND CANALS OF LENINGRAD ARE MAKING TREMENDOUS IMPRESSION AMONG POPULACE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LENDING 00693 141604Z

WEATHER CONTINUES TO BE IDEAL HERE WHICH FURTHERS WIDEST

POSSIBLE LIBERTY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CREWS. PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN EXCELLENT AND THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT INCREASING NUMBERS OF LENINGRADERS WILL BE MAKING THEIR WAY TO TIP OF VASIL'YEVSKIY ISLAND TO SEE SHIPS AND WATCH COMINGS AND GOINGS OF SAILORS. OVER 6,000 PERSONS TOURED VESSELS ON MAY 13, ADULTS AS WELL AS YOUNG PIONEERS WITH THEIR RED KERCHIEFS. THERE WAS HARDLY A CAMPIONWAY OR SHIP LADDER FREE OF HIGHLY CURIOUS LENINGRADERS.

3. OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF EVENTS CONTINUES TO UNFOLD EVERY WARMLY. ADMIRAL LANGILLE HOSTED ON-BOARD LUNCHEON MAY 13 FOR VICE ADMIRAL V. M. LEONENKOV, WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY MAJOR GENERAL ZARUDIN, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF LENINGRAD MILITARY DISTRICT; MR. A. A. CHISTYAKOV, DEPUTY MAYOR OF LENINGRAD; MR. GI. I. POPOV, HEAD OF THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY (LENINGRAD BRANCH OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS); AND ASSORTED OTHER STAFF OFFICERS. LUNCH WENT EXTREMELY WELL AND SOVIET GUESTS CLEARLY ENJOYED THEIR LOBSTER. COMMANDER OF U.S.S. LEAHY, GAVE GUESTS A TOUR OF HIS SHIP AFTER LUNCH, INCLUDING A DEMONSTRATION OF MISSILE RETRACTION AND READINESS FOR LAUNCHING. SOVIET OFFICERS WERE WITHOUT DOUBT MOST IMPRESSED BY CANDID DESCRIPTIONS OF VESSEL'S CAPABILITIES AND TOUR OF CONTROL CENTER WITH RADAR CONSOLES AND OTHER DAZZLING EQUIPMENT. ADMIRAL LEONENKOV AND OTHERS OBSERVED MISSILES WITH KEEN PROFESSIONAL INTEREST AND LEONENKOV DID NOT APPEAR TOO DISAPPOINTED WHEN HE WAS FRANKLY TOLD THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO ANSWER HIS EQUALLY FRANK QUESTION AS TO HOW MANY MISSILES SHIP CARRIES. IN SUM, TOUR UNDOUBTEDLY ILLUSTRATED TO SOVIET OFFICERS THAT THEY WERE SEEING FAR MORE THAN THEY WOULD BE PERMITTED TO SHOW IN A SIMILAR SITUATION, PERHAPS PUTTING SMALL DENT IN PERVASIVE SOVIET SECRECY SYNDROME.

4. WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY AT LENINGRAD'S PISKAREVSKOYE MEMORIAL CEMETERY AFTERNOON OF MAY 13 WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSIVE. A BRIEF THUNDERSTORM ADDED TO THE EFFECT AS SOVIET AND US NAVAL BANDS EXCHANGED NATIONAL ANTHEMS AS THE WREATH WAS LAYED. ADMIRAL LANGILL'S REMARKS AT CONCLUSION OF CEREMONY, WHICH EMPHASIZED COMMON NECESSITY TO INSURE THAT TRAGEDIES OF WAR SUCH AS LENINGRAD'S DURING WORLD WAR II WOULD NEVER BE REPEATED, WERE PRINTED IN MAY 14 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LENDING 00693 141604Z

MORNING PAPERS.

5. ADMIRAL LEONENKOV HOSTED RECEPTION FOR 50 US NAVAL AND CONGEN OFFICERS AND SOME 50 SOVIET MILITARY, NAVAL OFFICERS AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS EVENING OF MAY 13 AT STATE GUEST HOUSE. CONVIVIALITY WAS THE ORDER OF THE DAY AND FINAL THROES OF RECEPTION SAW NUMBER OF SOVIET OFFICERS WHO PROBABLY HAD ONE VODKA TOO MANY. US OFFICERS,

NATURALLY, COMPORTED THEMSELVES VERY WELL AND SHOWED CONSIDERABLE PROWESS IN THIS FORM OF PEACEFUL COMPETITION. ONE OF THE MOST DELIGHTFUL SOVIET GUESTS TURNED OUT TO BE NONE OTHER THAN WIFE OF ADMIRAL LEONENKOV, A VERY ATTRACTIVE LADY WHO IS A MEDICAL DOCTOR AND SPEAKS RATHER EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

6. ON MAY 14 ADMIRAL LANGILLE HOSTED LUNCHEON FOR HEADS OF SOVIET NAVAL ACADEMIES IN LENINGRAD AREA. PRINCIPAL SOVIET GUEST WAS VICE ADMIRAL YEFIM IVANOVICH MEDVEDEV. SOVIET OFFICERS THOROUGHLY ENJOYED TOUR OF LEAHY AND WERE HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY OF SHIP'S APPEARANCE, PARTICULARLY PRAISING ENGINE ROOM. GENERAL VISITING OF SHIP NOW TAKING PLACE AGAIN AND THERE IS LARGE CROWD ON DOCK WAITING TO BOARD SHIPS. POLICE CROWD CONTROL IS TIGHT AND MOST, IF NOT ALL, VISITORS HAVE PRINTED "INVITATION CARD". NEVERTHELESS, EXTENT OF VISITING IS ALMOST CAPACITY LEVEL SO THERE NO REASON TO COMPLAIN ABOUT SOVIET STRICTURES ON NUMBERS. US NAVY BAND DETACHMENT IS POSITIONED ON DOCK BY LEAHY PLAYING POPULAR MUSIC DURING VISITING HOURS. IT MAKES FOR QUITE A SIGHT.

7. EVENING OF MAY 14 IS FREE OF SOVIET OR US SOCIAL EVENTS, PERMITTING US PARTICIPANTS IN MAIN EVENTS TO CATCH THEIR BREATH BEFORE FORTHCOMING ON BOARD RECEPTION FOR 130-150 ON EVENING OF MAY 15 AND CONSUL GENERAL'S RECEPTION FOR 330 PERSONS EVENING OF MAY 16.

8. AS FINAL NOTE, IT IS WORTH REPEATING THAT THIS VISIT IS SERVING US REPRESENTATIONAL INTERESTS HERE IN BEST POSSIBLE WAY AND CONGEN HIGHLY COMMENDS SUPERB MANNER IN WHICH ADMIRAL LANGILLE AND HIS MEN ARE MAKING VISIT A GREAT SUCCESS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 Lening 00693 141604Z

NEUBERT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEAHY USS, VISITS, NAVAL SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LENING00693
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750169-0494
From: LENINGRAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750554/aaaabwop.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LENINGRAD 0685
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO LENINGRAD
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, MPOL, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006